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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT: Briefing Statement on Office of General Counsel Personnel

1. The Office of General Counsel is responsible for all legal matters arising in connection with the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency. These embrace not only the problems common to operation of Government agencies but those arising out of CIA's special statutory authorities and responsibilities, and further those special and in some cases unique legal matters arising out of clandestine activities. In the latter particularly, the Office of General Counsel does not have access to the other legal services available in Government, due to security and the specialized nature of the problems.

2. As of 1 February 1957 the total on-duty strength of the Office will be ☐ and in addition one lawyer on temporary assignment for research work. On the permanent staff there are ☐ lawyers, of whom one, the Deputy General Counsel, is currently attending the National War College. This represents a reduction from a maximum of ☐ lawyers with a total on-duty strength of ☐. This reduction is due largely to the increased experience and professionalism of both the operations and support staffs of the Agency. Due to the physical separation among three buildings, the present staff is probably at an absolute minimum, and it may be necessary to recruit one additional lawyer at a junior grade. Otherwise, I do not expect much change, although if and when we consolidate in the new building a further reduction may be possible.

3. Due to the variety of problems coming into the Office, no short description can be given of the Office activities. At the moment, however, the main burdens involve many legislative matters, particularly those designed to tighten up the espionage

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acts; the complex and specialized tax problems of people under cover in covert operations; various matters relating to the new CIA building. For security and cover purposes, a certain amount of work is done through outside cleared lawyers on a fee basis, although all legal problems relating directly to the Agency are the responsibility of the Office of the General Counsel. Two lawyers

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